

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4409

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2005

PREMATURE RETIREMENT BY IAF PILOTS

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that pilots in Indian Air Force have been taking premature retirement to join the private airlines companies which are offering better pay perks;
- (b) if so, the number of pilots who took premature retirement during the last three years and the current year so far;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend the rules and service conditions of the pilots to check exodus; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (d): The number of pilots in the Indian Air Force (IAF) who have taken premature retirement during the years 2002 to 2004 is 236. During the year 2005 (upto 31st July, 2005) 42 pilots have taken premature retirement. The majority of pilots released from service have already completed their useful tenure as pilots. These exits do not affect the operational status of the squadrons. The requests for acceptance of premature retirement/resignation from the pilots are considered as per the Government instructions. The job profile and job requirements of the pilots in the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the pilots in commercial airlines are different and not comparable. The improvement in the job profile of the IAF pilots is a continuous phenomenon keeping in view the job specific requirements and operational necessity.